Train Accidents

3677. SHRI P. KODANDA RAMAIAH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of serious train accidents involving loss of human lives between May, 1996 to July, 1997;

(b) the compensation paid to the next of kin of the deceased and the injured; and

(c) the proceedings instituted against the senior officers of the Railways?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) During the period May, 1996 to July, 1997, there were 84 consequential train accidents attended with fatalities. They comprised of 11 collisions, 15 derailments, 18 manned level crossing accidents and 40 unmanned level crossing accidents.

(b) An amount of Rs. 50,000 as compensation and Rs. 19.75 lakhs as ex-gratia was paid to the victims of train accidents during this period.

(c) Appropriate punishments are imposed on personnel found responsible for accidents, the degree of which varies according to the magnitude of the lapse and the level of responsibility. These are subsequently reviewed at the General Manager's level to ensure the adequacy of the punishments.

[Translation]

Maheshwar Hydro Electric Project

3678. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the present state of construction of Maheshwar Hydro Electric Project in Madhya Pradesh and whether any agreement has been made with any private party for implementation of this project;

(b) if so, the name of the party and the terms and conditions;

(c) the state of Maheshwar Hydro-Electric Project at present and whether the Union Government have accorded its approval regarding environmental clearance;

(d) the cost of the project and whether the private party is in a position to bear this cost; and

(e) the time by which this project is likely to be commenced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) to (c) A Memorandum of Understanding to implement the Maheshwar Hydro Electric Project (10x40 MW) has been entered into between the Government of Madhya Pradesh and M/s. Shree Maheshwar Hydel Power Corporation Limited. Various non-statutory and statutory clearances have already been obtained by the project promoters including clearance from environmental angle, subject to effective implementation of certain mitigative measures. The excavation work of the Power House is in progress.

(d) The project has been accorded Techno-Economic Clearance by the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) at an estimated completed cost of US$ 213.29 million + Rs. 812.09 crores. The final financial package indicating the source of funding has not yet been firmed up by the project promoters.

(e) The commissioning schedule of the project has been indicated as March to August, 2002.

[English]

Solid Waste Conversion Plant at Vijayawada

3679. SHRI G.A. CHARAN REDDY : Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether a solid waste conversion plant is coming up in Vijayawada to tap dormant energy from the municipal waste which is first of its kind in the country;

(b) if so, the main features of the proposed plant;

(c) the time by which it is likely to be set up;

(d) the total expenditure likely to be involved;

(e) whether the Govt. propose to have another such plants in other districts also; and

(f) if so, the places where such plants are likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The plant is expected to process 200 MT Municipal Solid Waste to produce 60 Tonnes per day of fuel pellets.

(c) The plant is expected to be set up by the end of financial year 1997-98.

(d) The estimated cost of the plant is Rs. 6.0 crores.

(e) and (f) Project Proposals for generation of energy from urban and industrial wastes including such plants, producing fuel pellets from municipal solid waste, are considered by the Ministry for grant of eligible fiscal & financial incentives under the National Programme on Energy Recovery from Urban, Municipal and Industrial Wastes, upon receipt of such proposals from the project developers/promoters. However, no such proposal from any other district in Andhra Pradesh has been received in the Ministry.